



## Summer Food Service Program



## Bulletin

**Child Nutrition Programs**  
Teaching and Learning Support  
801 West 10th Street, Suite 200  
P.O. Box 110500  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500  
Phone (907) 465 4788  
Fax (907) 465-8910

**To:** SFSP Sponsors  
Program Reviewers

**Date:** February 10, 2017

**Bulletin:** 2017 – 5

**From:** Alicia Maryott  
SFSP Program Specialist

**Subject:** USDA Policy Memos and Information

To view previous USDA policy memos, visit:  
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy>

### Additional Topics:

- 2017 SFSP Intent to Operate (*attached*)
- Farm to Summer Meal Site Sub-Grants (*application attached*)
- Mapping Tools to Improve Your Summer Operations
- Transitioning from CACFP and NSLP to SFSP/SSO (*attachments*)
- Activity Guides and Nutrition Education Materials Available
- Upcoming Webinars & Conference Calls

**Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.**

### Additional Topics

- **2017 SFSP Intent to Operate (*attached*)**  
SFSP sponsors are required to submit in writing, their intention to operate the program and the sites they plan to serve. Please indicate which sites you plan on operating, as well as any additions or deletions of sites that you know of at this time. If you are not planning to participate in the SFSP, please advise our office so that a termination form may be sent to your agency. Please submit to [cyde.coil@alaska.gov](mailto:cyde.coil@alaska.gov) by March 31, 2017.
- **Farm to Summer Meal Site Sub-Grants (*application attached*)**  
In partnership with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture, the Farm to Summer Meal Site Initiative is designed to encourage gardening projects and incorporate local foods into meal programs. The Farm to Summer Meal Sites Program will be actively building healthier nutrition environments by engaging children in **fun and interactive nutrition education** that is specific to their local food system, such as growing, harvesting, and/or cooking local foods. This project will be accessible to an array of participating programs including:
  - Summer Food Service Program
  - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
    - Child Care Centers
    - Sponsor of Family Day Care Homes

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
  - Resident Child Care Institutions
  - Summer School
  - Seamless Summer Program

It is our intent to provide funding, up to \$750 per summer meal site or \$150 per family day care homes, to help purchase gardening supplies, containers, and other materials. USDA nutrition education gardening curriculum will be provided to selected sites. If you are interested in applying or have any questions, please email [Jodie Anderson](#) or call 907.761.3854. **Application deadline is February 17, 2017.** [Learn more here.](#)

- **Mapping Tools to Improve Your Summer Operations**

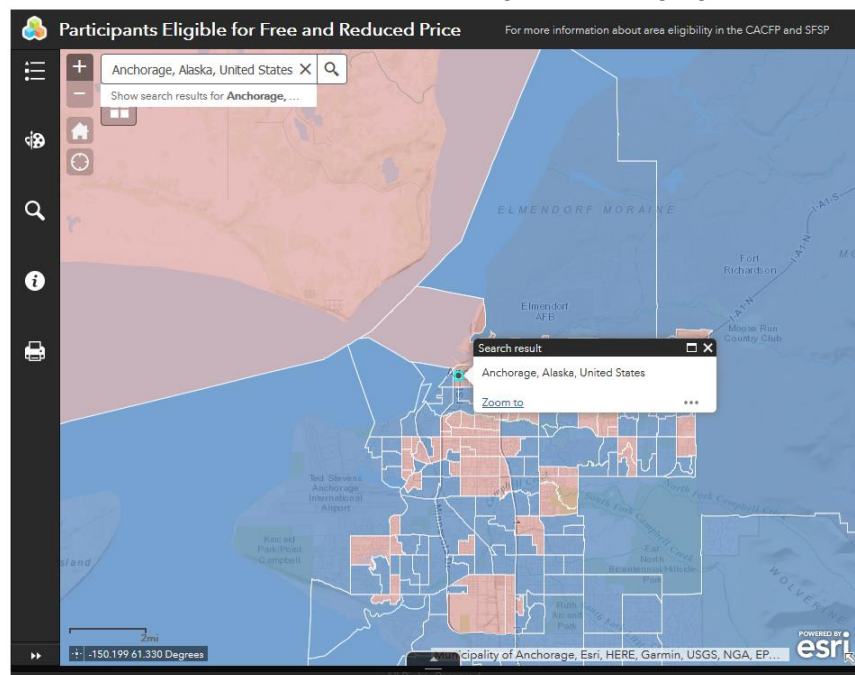
Authoritative geographic data can be used strategically to target service gaps, identify new sites, and expand outreach efforts. FNS is excited to share new updates to the mapping tools below to assist sponsors, State agencies, and partners in building summer meals capacity in their communities!

- Area Eligibility Mapper

Make sure that your sites are eligible for summer by using the [Area Eligibility Mapper](#)! This tool allows sponsors to confirm eligibility of summer meal sites by accessing census tract and census block group (CBG) data. This tool can also be used to conduct weighted averaging as discussed in SFSP Policy

Memorandum 10-2015, “[Area Eligibility in Child Nutrition Programs.](#)”

Instructions for determining eligibility using these data are available [here](#). Sponsors can work with their State agency if they want to establish area eligibility using school data.



- Capacity Builder

Want to explore new site locations? The [Capacity Builder](#) allows sponsors to view previous years' summer meal sites in their communities and identify areas of highest need as well as gaps in service. Sponsors can add layers to that map that show potential site locations (multi-family housing units, libraries, museums, and schools) in areas of need. The Capacity Builder interface was recently updated to allow users to view data tables, draw on the map, search SFSP site data, and filter sites by when they are open.

- Rural Designation Tool

[This tool](#) allows sponsors and State agencies to identify whether a site is designated rural or non-rural. Sites designated as rural are eligible for increased reimbursement in SFSP. Read more about rural designation [here](#).

- Mobile Route Maker

With the [Mobile Route Maker](#), sponsors can identify potential summer sites for mobile feeding by identifying gaps in service in the neediest areas, plan the most efficient monitoring routes, and find routes to local food vendors.

- **Transitioning from CACFP and NSLP to SFSP/SSO**

As sponsors gear up for summer feeding, we wanted to provide some resources that may assist multi-program sponsors transition from one program to the next. Attached you'll find these comparison charts to aid in preparation for potential program changes:

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service Programs for Out-of-School-Time Providers (attached)
- Alaska Child Nutrition Programs Comparison of SFSP/NSLP/SSO (attached)
- CACFP/NSLP/SFSP Meal Pattern Comparison Chart (attached)

- **Activity Guides and Nutrition Education Materials Available**

USDA Team Nutrition Materials are a great way to add activities and nutrition education to your SFSP sites. We have 50 [Summer Food, Summer Moves](#) kits available in our office to any sponsors who wish to receive them, free of charge. These include:

- Operator Activity Guide
- Activity Guides for Families
- Summer Meals, Summer Fun
- Stay Cool with Summer Meals
- Summer Meals, Summer Friends
- Let's Celebrate Summer Meals
- Eat Smart to Play Hard



Also included are activity placemats, recipes and more! If your agency would like any kits, please include how many and which mailing address(es) you would like them to be mailed to. You can email your requests to [cyde.coil@alaska.gov](mailto:cyde.coil@alaska.gov)

- **Upcoming SFSP Webinars & Conference Calls**

- FRAC – Improving the Quality and Appeal of Summer and Afterschool Meals **Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM AST**. Summer and afterschool meals don't have to be boring, bland, or repetitive! The quality of meals plays a critical role in the success of the Summer and Afterschool Meal Programs in alleviating hunger, improving nutrition, and attracting more children to sites. Join us to hear from program providers, sponsors and advocates on ways to: improve vendor contracts to include healthier meals, incorporate fresh and local foods, and improve the appeal of the meals served to children all year long. Click [here](#) to register.

## Contact Information

Alicia Maryott, SFSP Program Specialist  
(907) 465-4788 fax (907) 465-8910  
[Alicia.Maryott@alaska.gov](mailto:Alicia.Maryott@alaska.gov)

Cyde Coil, SFSP Education Program Assistant  
(907) 465-4969 fax (907) 465-8910  
[Cyde.Coil@alaska.gov](mailto:Cyde.Coil@alaska.gov)

## Commonly Used Acronyms

SFSP – Summer Food Service Program  
CNP – Child Nutrition Programs  
WRO – Western Region Office  
FNS – Food & Nutrition Services  
FNSRO-Food & Nut. Services Reg. Office  
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture  
EED – Education & Early Development  
DEC – Department of Conservation  
LEA – Local Education Agency



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